

Julie Masters, Mayor
Charles Suderman, Mayor Pro Tem
Sean Skipworth
Walter Wilson

MINUTES

City of Dickinson
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

Wally Deats
Louis Decker
William H. King III
Chris Heard, City Administrator

January 14, 2020

The Dickinson City Council met in a duly called and announced **REGULAR MEETING** on **Tuesday, January 14, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.** The meeting was held in the City Council Chambers located at 4403 Highway 3, Dickinson, Galveston County, Texas, and was held for the purpose of considering the following items:

ITEM 1.) CALL TO ORDER AND CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM

Mayor Masters called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. City Secretary Alun Thomas called roll and certified a quorum. Council Members present were as follows: Mayor Julie Masters, Mayor Pro-Tem Charles Suderman, and Council Members Sean Skipworth, Walter Wilson, Wally Deats, and Louis Decker. Council Member William H. King, III was absent. Also present were City Attorney Derra Purnell, City Administrator Chris Heard, Finance Director Kristen Woolley, Interim Director of Public Works Ronald Sullivan, Police Chief Ron Morales, Fire Marshal Burt Heddles, Library Director Julianne Lane, Assistant to the City Administrator Kerilyn Bascle, and Assistant to the Director of Public Works Andrew Crawford.

ITEM 2.) INVOCATION

Mayor Masters gave the invocation.

ITEM 3.) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member Deats led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM 4.) PROCLAMATIONS

A.

ITEM 5.) ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

A. Council Comments.

- Welcome and thank you to all for attending the meeting.
- Council Members Decker and Wilson announced that they would be filing to run for reelection in the May General Election.
- Council Member Suderman announced that he would not seek reelection in May, noting that he was first elected to Council in 2005 with the intention of serving two or three terms. He spoke of Council's accomplishments during his tenure and said that he hoped that he was able to leave the City in a better condition than when he started.

Council Member Deats thanked him for his service to Dickinson and said that he would be missed.

- Mayor Masters announced that she would not seek reelection in May, having served for 15 years. She said that she has placed the City in front of her family for too long and that she has had time to reconsider her priorities. Mayor Masters thanked the citizens for their years of support and encouraged everyone to vote for Jessie Brantley to succeed her as Mayor.
- Drainage ditches across the city are being improved.
- Council Member Deats would like for staff to authorize the organizers of the "Little Italy Festival" to use City Hall's grounds for their event.
- There are some items that Council Member Deats has been asking to be put on the agenda but are not on there. Those items include an interlocal agreement with Dickinson Economic Development Corporation, lease agreements for the use of City facilities, and new regulations for vacation rentals.
- Agenda items often lack the "Agenda Item Data Sheet" that Council used to receive. The sheets, which provide an executive summary of the item, are very useful to Council.
- There is no City Administrator's update on this agenda, but some members of Council are interested in knowing when the vacant staff positions will be filled. City Administrator Chris Heard declined Mayor Masters' invitation to address this concern during the meeting.
- Council Member Deats made a motion to add an item to the next Council meeting to remove Chris Heard from the board of Dickinson Economic Development Corporation. City Attorney Derra Purnell said that the motion was not necessary; Council Member Deats' request during the meeting was sufficient to ensure that the item is added.
- Council Member King is currently in the hospital, and we all wish him a speedy recovery.
- Council Member Skipworth said that he would like an update on several projects: the elevation grant application, the buyout/acquisition program, the transition of solid waste collection services, and the planned update to the City's Comprehensive Plan.
- Paul Hopkins Park's new pedestrian bridge is now in place. Galveston County will soon also replace the restroom facilities at the park.
- The Knights of Columbus will host many fish fry events in the coming months, with the next one on February 7, then weekly from February 28 through April 3. There will not be a fish fry on Good Friday.

B. The 2020 "It's Time Texas" Community Challenge (Galveston County Health District).

Ami Cotharn, a representative from Galveston County Health District, addressed Council and provided information regarding the Community Challenge and the many programs that the District provides to our community.

C. Charter Review Commission Final Report.

The City Council agreed to accept the Charter Review Commission's Final Report as presented.

ITEM 6.) REPORTS:

- A. Update on Activities of the Houston-Galveston Area Council (Council Member King).

Council Member King was absent, so this Item was not discussed.

- B. Update on Public Works Projects (Interim Director of Public Works Ron Sullivan).

Interim Director of Public Works Ron Sullivan gave an update on his department's activities and addressed the questions of Council.

ITEM 7.) PUBLIC COMMENTS: At this time, any person with city-related business may speak to the Council. In compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, The City Council may not deliberate. **Comments from the public should be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes per individual speaker.**

Jacqueline Valcoviak, P.O. Box 716, Kemah, Texas – Ms. Valcoviak thanked the members of the Charter Review Commission for their work. She believes that the form of government in Dickinson is broken and that the repeated request from citizens to Council are being ignored. Ms. Valcoviak said that some members of Council have served for 15 years, and that Council Member Decker has served for 24 years, in addition to each member's many other committee obligations. New members of Council, she said, would bring accountability and new energy. Ms. Valcoviak encouraged Council to place all of the Charter Review Commission's recommended changes to the City Charter on the ballot. Finally, she asked that the City commit in writing and on City letterhead to allowing the Dickinson Little Italy Festival to use the City Hall's grounds for their event.

ITEM 8.) CONSENT AGENDA: CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

The following items are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be a separate discussion on these items unless a Council member requests, in which event, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and discussed after the consent agenda.

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 10, 2019.

- B. Resolution Number 1807-2020 – **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, APPROVING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS (CITY), AND GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS (CONTRACTING OFFICER), AUTHORIZING GALVESTON COUNTY TO CONDUCT THE CITY OF DICKINSON’S MAY 2, 2020 ELECTION(S) PURSUANT TO TEXAS ELECTION CODE CHAPTER 31.093; PROVIDING FOR THE INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLE; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT BY THE MAYOR; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Council Member Wilson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, and Council Member Deats seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

MOTION PASSED

- ITEM 9.) **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING:** Ordinance Number 946-2020 – **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, AMENDING SUBSECTION (a), PERMITTED USES, OF SECTION 18-55, GENERAL COMMERCIAL “GC” DISTRICT, OF ARTICLE IV, ZONING DISTRICTS, OF CHAPTER 18, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, TO DELETE SUBSECTION (8), CHILD DAY CARE SERVICES, AND REPLACE WITH A NEW SUBSECTION (8), DAY CARE SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR THE INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLE; DIRECTING A CHANGE ACCORDINGLY IN THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY; PROVIDING A PENALTY OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000 FOR EACH DAY OF VIOLATION HEREOF; AND PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE, A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Second of Three Readings)**

Council Member Deats made a motion to approve the Ordinance in two readings, and Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

MOTION PASSED

- ITEM 10.) **CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING:** Ordinance Number 947-2020 – **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 18-58, USES REQUIRING SPECIFIC USE**

PERMIT, OF ARTICLE V, SPECIFIC USES, OF CHAPTER 18, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, TO DELETE CHILD DAY CARE CENTERS, AND AMENDING SUBSECTION (a), PERMITTED USES, OF SECTION 18-54, NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL "NC" DISTRICT, OF ARTICLE IV, ZONING DISTRICTS, OF CHAPTER 18, ZONING, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, TO ADD DAY CARE SERVICES AS A PERMITTED USE, AND TO RENUMBER THE REMAINING SUBSECTIONS ACCORDINGLY; PROVIDING FOR THE INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLE; DIRECTING A CHANGE ACCORDINGLY IN THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP OF THE CITY; PROVIDING A PENALTY OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000 FOR EACH DAY OF VIOLATION HEREOF; AND PROVIDING A REPEALER CLAUSE, A SAVINGS CLAUSE, A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Second of Three Readings)

Council Member Deats made a motion to approve the Ordinance in two readings, and Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

MOTION PASSED

ITEM 11.) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING: Ordinance Number 948-2020 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, AMENDING APPENDIX B, PAY GRADE CLASSIFICATION STRUCTURE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES, OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON PERSONNEL POLICY (2005) TO ESTABLISH THE POSITIONS AND PAY RANGES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES WHICH ALIGN WITH HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL AVERAGES; AND ADOPTING AN APPENDIX C TO THE CITY OF DICKINSON PERSONNEL POLICY WHICH OUTLINES PAY STRUCTURES FOR THOSE EMPLOYEES UNDER THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT. (Second of Three Readings)

Council Member Deats made a motion to approve the Ordinance in two readings, and Council Member Decker seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

MOTION PASSED

ITEM 12.) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING: A Six (6) Month Extension of Specific Use Permit Number SUP-18-2112, a Request for a Specific Use Permit, for a "Bar" Located at Property Legally Described as Abstract 19 Perry & Austin Tract 67 (67-5) 1.855 Acres, Dickinson, Texas 77539, Currently Zoned General Commercial "GC".

Council Member Wilson made a motion to approve a six-month extension of the Specific Use Permit, and Council Member Deats seconded the motion. The applicant asked how he could avoid the time running out on his application, and City Administrator Chris Heard told him that he must submit his drawings to the City. There being no further discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

MOTION PASSED

ITEM 13.) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING: Resolution Number 1808-2020 – **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, APPROVING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH HUITT-ZOLLARS, INC. FOR ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR FEMA PROJECT #36050 DICKINSON CULVERTS AND DITCHES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE AN AGREEMENT FOR SUCH SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR THE INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Council Member Suderman made a motion to approve the Resolution, and Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. City Administrator Chris Heard addressed questions regarding the scope of the projects covered by the proposed agreement. There being no further discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

MOTION PASSED

ITEM 14.) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING: Resolution Number 1809-2020 – **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, APPROVING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, AND HDR ENGINEERING, INC. FOR TEXAS AVENUE WATER LINE IMPROVEMENTS; PROVIDING FOR THE**

INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLE; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT BY THE MAYOR; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Council Member Suderman made a motion to approve the Resolution, and Council Member Wilson seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

MOTION PASSED

- ITEM 15.) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING:** Resolution Number 1810-2020 – **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO ISSUE TASK WORK AUTHORIZATION NUMBER 3 FOR FEMA PROJECT #36050 DICKINSON CULVERTS AND DITCHES; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF PREAMBLE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

Council Member Suderman made a motion to approve the Resolution, and Council Member Skipworth seconded the motion. Council Member Deats asked for more information about the item, since it lacked an Agenda Item Data Sheet. City Administrator Chris Heard explained that the Task Work Authorization ("TWA") would draw from the same approximately \$2.7 million contract that was approved in March 2019, and that the expenditures listed in the Resolution represented authorized expenditures and not the actual expenditures. Mr. Heard said that the desilting proposed by this TWA does not relate to the 500 cubic yards of desilting on Winding Way that Council approved during its October 8, 2019 meeting. Mr. Heard encouraged Council Member Deats to come to his office to ask him questions as he had them, but Council Member Deats said that he did not want to be the only member of Council to know the answers to his questions. There being no further discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

MOTION PASSED

- ITEM 16.) EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The City Council will now hold a closed executive meeting pursuant to the provision of Chapter 551, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes annotated, in accordance with the authority contained in:

- A. Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney regarding pending litigation and matters in which the duty of the City Attorney requires to be discussed in closed meeting.

Mayor Masters said that, unless a member of Council wished to hold an Executive Session, she saw no need for this Item. Council Member Deats asked that Council recess into Executive Session. Mayor Masters then recessed the regular meeting at 7:51 p.m.

ITEM 17.) RECONVENE

Mayor Masters reconvened the regular meeting at 8:06 p.m.

ITEM 18.) CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING: Matters Discussed in Executive Session.

None.

ITEM 19.) ADJOURN

Council Member Wilson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m., and Council Member Skipworth seconded the motion. There being no discussion, Mayor Masters called for the vote.

VOTE:

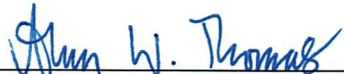
5 AYES (Suderman, Skipworth, Wilson, Deats, Decker)

0 NAYS

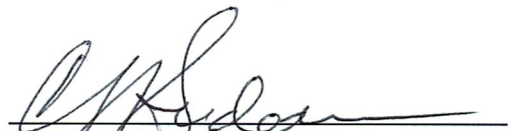
MOTION PASSED

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this the 28th day of January, 2020.

ATTEST:


Alun W. Thomas, City Secretary




Charles Suderman, Mayor Pro Tem